

dent of Stanford University, advises the California Safety Council.

In a safety message to President Fred D. Parr of the state-wide accident prevention agency, Doctor Wilbur, himself a Safety Council director, says:

"The history of mechanical contrivances in industry and in transportation is that they have always at the beginning had a high accident rate. With the application of safety devices and the education of employees, marked reductions in such accidents have been the rule. In connection with the high speeds possible with modern automobiles and modern roads there have been improvements in the brakes, in the steering devices, and in the durability of all parts of the automobile.

"There can still be marked improvements in the roads in the illumination of all highways, in automobile lights, signs, etc.; Doctor Wilbur continued, "but all of these will be futile unless the drivers can be trained. With a new crop of drivers each year, and with increasing consumption of alcohol, a continuation of the accident problem is inevitable. I think that we must attack every weakness, but particularly educate the drivers in the dangers involved. Also we must develop an etiquette of the road which will be universally accepted.

"Taboos have controlled human conduct for untold centuries. If we can get a road etiquette established that has in it certain well-justified taboos, I believe we can increase the safety of our highways materially."

Pneumonia Exhibit at Golden Gate International Exposition.—While men and women throughout the world celebrated another anniversary of a war armistice, scientists revealed completion of a brilliant "medical armistice" against pneumonia.

From officials of the Golden Gate International Exposition, announcement came that a New York laboratory has finally completed preparation of tested, effective anti-serums for each one of the thirty-two types of pneumonia germs. The almost miraculous curative serums will be distributed this month to strategically placed depots throughout the United States.

San Francisco has been selected as one of these distributing centers.

The first public demonstration of the thirty-two anti-pneumonia serums will be made to the public next year in an exhibit sponsored by the Lederle Laboratories of New York for the San Francisco Fair's Hall of Science. This was reported by Dr. Milton Silverman, Director of the Hall of Science, following receipt of plans for the Lederle display.

"For centuries," Doctor Silverman said, "pneumonia has consistently ranked among the top four killers. Until only a few years ago, this terrible infection baffled scientists and physicians who attempted to find some curative method.

"Only recently, laboratories gave us the first hope that a serum might be able to battle pneumonia. The hope was pretty slim, since there are known to be at least thirty-two types of pneumonia germs, and each type requires a specific anti-serum."

In the last few months, it was pointed out, these specific anti-serums were developed for four types of pneumonia microbes, then seven, then eleven, and now, for all thirty-two.

It is expected development and proper distribution of the curative agents will cut pneumonia mortality down to nearly the vanishing point.

"Proper usage of the serums," Doctor Silverman emphasized, "depends almost entirely on coöperation between the physician and the patient. The longer the patient delays calling his physician the less the efficacy of the serum."

Other features to be presented in the Lederle exhibit next year include a demonstration of the cause, spread, diagnosis, and treatment of pneumonia, and a demonstra-

tion of the methods used to determine the type of a pneumonia infection and to select the proper serum.

Seek Law to Bar Epileptic Drivers from Highways.

The state of California, through its Department of Public Health, is to inaugurate legal action to forbid the operation of motor vehicles by persons suffering from epilepsy, in an attempt to cut down the numerous accidents caused by physically unfit drivers. This was announced recently by Dr. Walter M. Dickie, Director of the Department, in a communication to the University of California Medical Center. According to Doctor Dickie, the legislation will be presented at the next session of the Legislature.

Under the present law it is not possible for any hospital or private physician to report cases of epilepsy to the department, although both are known to be receiving numerous complaints about epileptic drivers. According to a number of medical authorities, the epileptic in many cases is not aware of his condition. Cases have been known where the epileptic driver lapsed into unconsciousness at the wheel of a car, caused an accident thereby, and then recovered his senses without having been in any way aware of the lapse. It has thus been impossible to place responsibility for a number of accidents.

According to Doctor Dickie it is the plan of the department to have the reported cases submitted to the State Division of Motor Vehicles so that the division may have opportunity to keep a constant check on epileptic drivers. There is no intention on the part of the department to keep epileptics out of automobiles, he said, as such recreation may be beneficial to them. The only intent is to keep them from driving motor vehicles while suffering from their complaint.

Present motor-vehicle regulations provide that the applicant for a license must state whether he is suffering from a physical disability of any kind. But many epileptics either evade this or attribute their disorder to indigestion or other complaint in a nondisabling class, officials of the division say. There is no way to compel a correct answer, and some other means must be found for the state to meet the situation.

Initiative Costs in November Election Told.—Sacramento, December 9.—Nearly \$1,000,000 was spent during the August primary and November general election campaigns in support and opposition to the twenty-five propositions appearing on the ballot, according to statements filed today with Frank C. Jordan, Secretary of State.

The exact amount expended was \$945,063, with only a few small statements outstanding, Jordan reported.

Opponents to the Labor Initiative No. 1 on the November ballot spent \$100,000, and organizations supporting the defeated measure expended more than \$300,000, Secretary of State Jordan reported. . . .

Proposition No. 2

Chief expenditures against No. 2, the Humane Pound Act, were: B. C. Raulston, M.D., and George D. Maner, M.D., Los Angeles, \$5,314; California Medical Association, \$14,423; California Society for Promotion of Medical Research, \$29,545. Favoring the Act were the California Citizens' Committee, \$3,189; California Committee, \$12,077. The Act was defeated.

Press Clippings.—Some news items from the daily press, on matters related to medical practice, follow:

Another Medical Initiative

Free Hospitals Sought

Creation of a state commission of nine members to control services in all state hospitals and physicians using them so the public can use them without charge is proposed in an initiative measure the Attorney General's office at Sacramento was yesterday asked to title.

Avery C. Moore of Berkeley, its sponsor, described it as a step extending "to the people of California the benefits of medical science along the same lines as educational benefits now being enjoyed."

Approval of the measure by the voters would entail an amendment to the state constitution and, in the event that should be forthcoming, Moore hopes to have the plan extended to private hospitals and physicians and service in private practice.

The manner of financing the suggestion was made that costs be budgeted by the Governor after a year's trial established actualities and estimates.

The commission, under the proposal, would have the power of regulation over all physicians, surgeons, osteopaths, chiropractors, and registered nurses.*

As soon as word of the proposal reached the Capitol, state officials expressed the conviction that it is entirely impracticable and can be expected to bring opposition generally from the medical profession.

Harry Lutgens, director of state institutions, said the seven state hospitals now are crowded to their capacity of 22,000 patients and have no room for more. He declared patients now pay an average of \$20 monthly for treatment, which means an income to the state's general fund of about \$4,000,000. The cost of maintaining the institutions, however, is \$14,000,000 biennially, he said.

Dr. C. B. Pinkham, secretary of the State Medical Board, predicted "vigorous" opposition on the part of the medical profession.—*San Francisco Chronicle*, December 29, 1938.

* * *

Health and Pension Laws in Making

Two New Campaigns Begin for Social Legislation—Behind the Health and Social Security Reports—The Plans Congress Will Consider

The Government is moving forward on two fronts to extend social legislation.

More adequate health services and bigger and better social security are the two goals at which the Administration is now shooting.

The health program, which shortly will be presented to Congress in the form of an interdepartmental report, was drafted by a committee headed by Miss Josephine Roche and at the behest of President Roosevelt.

The proposed health program would do two things: Provide adequate medical care for those who cannot pay for it; and make medical services less expensive for those who can afford to pay a modest fee.

Cost of Free Care for the Indigent

To accomplish the first objective—free care for indigent persons—Miss Roche's Interdepartmental Committee report recommends that State and Federal governments embark on a ten-year joint program to cost the Federal Government \$65,000,000 the first year and up to a maximum of \$850,000,000 a year. Maternal and child care, better public health services and hospital facilities would be provided.

Simultaneously, the Government is urged to back voluntary health insurance plans. That the executive branch of the Government will not need to be urged very hard can be seen in the vigor with which the Department of Justice is pressing in a District of Columbia court charges of violation of the Sherman Antitrust Law against the American Medical Association, the Medical Society of the District of Columbia, other medical societies, and twenty-one prominent physicians. A grand jury has just indicted the societies and physicians, basing the indictment on alleged discrimination by the defendants against Group Health Association, Inc., a medical cooperative of Government workers. . . .

Extending Coverage of Social Security

Their report urges speeding up and increasing of old-age payments, broadening the act to cover 14,800,000 persons not included in the forty-two million who now are covered, and abolishing the \$47,000,000,000 reserve fund. Widows and young children of annuitants, farm and domestic workers would be some of the new groups entitled to receive payments.

To pay the bigger bill, the Government would be asked to contribute one-third of the cost. The price of this expanded social insurance plan would be expected to absorb 10 to 12 per cent of national income in 1980.

If translated into law, these two new Government campaigns for social improvements may mean benefits to four of every ten persons in the country.—*The United States News*, December 27, 1938.

*Editor's Note.—County hospitals are supported by public funds, not from state but from county sources. Public funds raised by county taxation remain under the sole jurisdiction of county boards of supervisors, hence county hospitals remain under the sole control of county authorities. A plan for a commission to "regulate physicians" (whatever that may mean) is also something new.

Illness Costs British Over Billion Yearly

London, December 3.—(UP)—Illness costs Great Britain about \$1,415,000,000 a year.

Of this sum \$250,000,000 goes to the doctors. There are about 17,500,000 person under the National Health Insurance plan, and their average time on the sick list is a fortnight a year. Treatments and maintenance costs account for the rest.

The nation spends \$585,000,000 annually to prevent illness.—*Seattle Sunday Times*, December 4.

* * *

Behind the News*

Osteopath on Health Board, Final Merriam Filling

Swiftie: Despite everything he has been through recently, Governor Merriam has just demonstrated that he can still wind up and pitch one right past the belt-buckle. To the State Board of Health Mr. Merriam has just appointed Dr. Norman F. Sprague of Long Beach. About this there would be nothing unusual except that Doctor Sprague is an osteopath. This, so far as our men can learn, is the first time an osteopath has ever crashed the line of the M.D.'s. So various members of the medical profession are just sitting back now, waiting for the riot to start.

But, because of the Governor's skillful manipulations, a riot is exactly what may not develop. Mr. Merriam, the best information is, was paying a political debt to the osteopathic group by giving it something called an opening wedge. Yet the man he picked is perhaps the last California osteopath the doctors of medicine would select for a target. Not only has he done the extra medical study required for an osteopath to obtain a physician and surgeon license, but he has softened up the opposition by the manner in which he has helped pioneer the osteopathic ward in the Los Angeles County Hospital.

Doctor Sprague was the first, or among the first, osteopathic physicians admitted to the hospital after a thunderous battle between the two schools of practice which took place in the South several years ago. Apparently he did a very successful job there as an opening wedge—without rousing the ire of the M.D.'s. However, the sky may not remain too serene—provided the "regular" doctors can figure out something to do about it.

The appointment means a hearty chuckle through the Olson camp, because preëlection sentiment among the doctors of medicine—no mean political group—was definitely pro-Merriam. The Governor handled that situation nicely, too. He early told the medical men he was considering the appointment of an osteopath—and just let them think he was joking.

* * *

Merriam: As he steps out on this day when California has one governor for the forenoon and another for the p. m., we wish a belated happy new year to Governor Merriam. He has given us plenty to write about, for he has been preëminently a politician—and politics, like icebergs, whales, and the bottom of the ocean, are mostly under the surface. But there has been one thing about this governor of the forenoon—right or wrong, nobody could push him around. He listened to his advisers and then did as he pleased. And, although he was elected to get an entirely different sort of governor, the governor of the afternoon seems, in that regard at least, to be another piece off the same bolt. He doesn't push easy, either. A happy new year to him, too.

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Medical Corps Tests

An examination to qualify candidates for appointment as first lieutenants in the Medical Corps, regular army, will be held on March 20-24, 1939, inclusive, the War Department announced yesterday.

The examination will be open to male graduates of acceptable medical schools who have completed one year's internship and will not be over thirty-two years of age when commissions are tendered. Medical officers throughout the country will conduct both physical and written examinations. The Adjutant General, War Department, Washington, will furnish full information and application blanks.

* * *

Compulsory Marriage Examinations Sought

Compulsory examinations before marriage and tests of prospective mothers are the objects of two measures framed for consideration at the forthcoming session of the California Legislature, according to Miss Eloise A. Hafford, executive secretary of the Southern California Society for Control of Syphilis. Sixty thousand children were born last year afflicted with syphilis, she reports from national figures.

Miss Hafford will leave tonight for Sacramento for the purpose of promoting the two measures. She will be located

* With Arthur Caylor, in the *San Francisco News*, January 2, 1939.

at the Land Hotel, where she will remain until the solons complete work on the bills. She resides at 735 North Los Robles Avenue.

According to Miss Hafford, ten states already have enacted laws regulating premarital tests and fifteen legislatures will give consideration to similar measures at the coming sessions. The proposed California legislation has been given wide support, it is stated.—*Pasadena Star-News*, December 31, 1938.

* * *

California Sterilization Law Change Urged

Sacramento, December 29.—(INS).—Legislation to provide sterilization for certain inmates of California prisons was recommended in Sacramento today in the biennial report of the State Board of Prison Directors.

The recommendation was made by Dr. L. L. Stanley, chief surgeon at San Quentin, and who declared "the law in effect at the present is inoperative because of the numerous provisos it contains."

It was recommended by Doctor Stanley that legislation be enacted so prisoners may be sterilized under the following conditions:

1. Men with diseases which may have been inherited and are likely to be transmitted to descendants.
2. Feeble-mindedness in any of its various grades.
3. Perversion, or marked departure from normal mentality.—*Los Angeles Evening Herald and Express*, December 29, 1938.

* * *

Roosevelt Revives Reorganization Bill

Washington, December 8.—(INS).—President Roosevelt's program for reorganization of the Federal Government—a major New Deal proposal which met stunning defeat in the last Congress—was brought to life today in a conference at the White House.

The President called in Louis Brownlow, Charles E. Merriam, and Luther Gulick, the three advisers whose survey formed the basis for the Administration's reorganization recommendations.

With Roosevelt, the conferees debated how reorganization proposals might best be presented to the Congress convening in January.

The conference presumably explored future strategy, with particular attention to the recent election returns. In view of important Republican gains in both branches, opposition to the program may find new recruits.

With the possibility that today's conference may convince the President that another attempt should be made to put the reorganization bill through Congress, observers on Capitol Hill foresaw a long and bitter fight.

New Cabinet Officer: Department of Public Welfare

One of the most controversial features of the original bill was the establishment of a new cabinet post—Secretary of the Department of Public Welfare, under whom all welfare agencies of the government would be grouped. WPA Administrator Harry Hopkins was talked of for this post.—*San Francisco Call-Bulletin*, December 8.

* * *

Associated Farmers of California Act to Form National Group

Ventura, December 10.—(AP).—The Associated Farmers of the Pacific, fighting efforts to establish a closed shop on American farms, moved today toward national expansion of the organization.

A committee of farm leaders from western and midwestern states, named at the concluding session of the organization's first annual convention, will direct establishment of the enlarged unit.

Appointed to the group by Col. Walter E. Garrison of Lodi, retiring president of the Pacific group, were:

Holmes Bishop of Orange, president of the Associated Farmers of California; W. F. Schilling, Northfield, Minn.; Leo W. Lighter, Kenosha, Wis.; S. C. Arnold, Broadview, Mont., and J. C. Wilson, Phoenix, Ariz.

H. L. Shumaker of Hood River, Ore., was chosen to succeed Garrison.—*San Francisco Examiner*, December 12.

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Farm Industrialization Swells Labor Demand

Fresno, December 10.—(AP).—Omer Mills, regional economist for the Farm Security Administration, speaking at the California Conference on Migrant Education here today, said the high degree of industrialization which characterizes California agriculture largely is responsible for the demand for large numbers of agricultural laborers in this state.

"Twelve per cent of California's farmers employ 78 per cent of the labor," said Mills. "These large-scale operations create the need for a large number of workers, with the result that 60 per cent of the rural population are wage-earners employed by the big operators."

"These workers are out of a job a large part of the time, with various government agencies carrying the load between peak employment periods."

Mills declared there is a decided surplus of labor in the state. He recommended removal of a part of the surplus by employing these workers on conservation projects.

Agriculturists themselves have begun to realize the problem created by specialization, he said, and revision of the cropping pattern was discussed at a recent convention of the Associated Farmers. The need of teaching migrant workers the fundamentals of sanitation and hygiene was emphasized by Edward A. Brown, supervisor of camp inspection of the Division of Immigration and Housing.

The influx of migrants has resulted in an increase in pellegra, malaria and smallpox in California, said Dr. Ellen Stadtmuller, chief of the Bureau of Child Hygiene of the State Department of Health.—*San Francisco Examiner*, December 12.

* * *

Interference in Business Scored

Washington, December 8.—(INS).—A member of the joint antimonopoly committee, Senator King, Democrat of Utah, today declared a frank announcement by the New Deal "that it will stop interfering with business would do more to bring about recovery" than the inquiry into the nation's economic structure which the committee is conducting.

"There could be no greater contribution to revival of business," he asserted, "than an unmistakable announcement the government is not going to intervene in matters which belong to private endeavor; that it is not seeking to take industries over, but that its rôle is the one of coöperation and aid."

Fears Cited

"There is no doubt but what business men have been afraid of punitive legislation, of government entering fields that should be occupied by individuals, and afraid of burdensome taxation."

"If business could feel that government truly desires to aid in every proper way, not by bounty or gift, but by sympathetically approving those relations necessary between capital and government, you'd find, I think, the touchstone to a remarkable recovery." . . .—*San Francisco Call-Bulletin*, December 8.

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Influenza: \$20,000 Given New Germ Laboratory

Pacific Coast scientists will open a new attack on influenza germs in February in a State Public Health laboratory built and supported by the Rockefeller Foundation.

Dr. Walter M. Dickie, state health director, announced the Foundation had granted \$20,000 to pay for a state laboratory now being built near the University of California campus in Berkeley.

Addition of a Berkeley laboratory to another already established in Minnesota is expected to help discover what geographical differences there may be in influenza virus.

Thus far scientists have isolated at least four strains, and Doctor Dickie said studies already made indicated the virus which caused the California influenza epidemic of 1936 was different from that which affected many persons on the Atlantic Coast that winter.

Ultimate goal of the coordinated laboratories is the isolation of as many strains of the virus as possible in the hope of developing from them an immunizing substance effective against a maximum number of the varieties involved.

The virus is known to build up "antibodies" or immunizing substances in the individuals affected. These antibodies protect the person for a time against an attack by more viruses of the same strain, although not necessarily against viruses of another type.

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Animal Experimentation and Scientific Medicine Endorsed by Voters

The voters of California and Colorado, November 8, by overwhelming majorities emphatically rejected proposals made in those states to undermine the structure of scientific medicine, *The Journal of the American Medical Association* for November 19 says. In California an initiative humane pound law, so called, proposing to cripple scientific research by hampering animal experimentation, was decisively defeated. In Colorado an initiative measure proposed by a group of chiropractors, to debase the quality of medical care in the state by repealing the basic science act and by destroying other safeguards that have been erected to assure adequate and scientific medical service, was met by an avalanche of negative votes, running as high as 10 to 1 in some counties.

In Oklahoma an initiative measure that would have sanctioned practices not conducive to public welfare failed to get on the ballot, because of court action instituted by the medical profession. In Ohio a chiropractic initiative somewhat similar to the Colorado initiative died aborning, the cultist sponsors apparently becoming disheartened

shortly after the proposal was submitted to the attorney-general for his approval as to form. Petitions in Ohio were not circulated and the proposed initiative measure was not submitted to the people for a vote.

The medical associations in the states named assumed the lead in thwarting the selfish interests behind these proposals, interests that would subordinate the public welfare to their own private ends. In California and Colorado the state medical associations, aided by many lay and other professional groups and by public-spirited citizens, informed the people fully of the dangers implicit in the proposals. To bring these dangers to the attention of the voters necessitated great sacrifices of time and money, but the results show that such sacrifices were well worth while and indicate that an informed electorate will support scientific medical care under proper legal and ethical safeguards.—*American Medical Association News Sheet*.

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U. S. Migratory Aid Sought

Allocation of more federal funds for medical aid to California's thousands of migratory workers was urged yesterday by Dr. W. M. Dickie, director of the State Department of Public Health.

Present facilities, he said, are limited to the low available funds and man-power of his department and the Federal Farm Security Administration. He continued:

"Medical needs of these migratory workers showed an increase during November and will mount through the winter months. Additional provisions must be made for them. At the same time, the general public must be protected from the danger of contracting infectious diseases from them."

A major difficulty, Doctor Dickie declared, is the fact that a vast majority of the migratory workers lack the residence requirements to make them eligible for aid from local health departments.—*San Francisco Chronicle*, December 22.

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Democrats Map Health Plan

Legislature to Get Administration Program

Examiner Bureau, Sacramento, December 19.—Lieutenant-Governor Ellis E. Patterson said the new Democratic administration will submit a quasi-State health insurance program to the 1939 Legislature.

After studying newspaper accounts of the plan proposed at a Los Angeles meeting of the California Medical Association, Patterson indicated the Association's plan does not fully meet ideas of the incoming administration.

The administration program, instead of allowing eligibles a salary maximum of only \$2,500 annually, would admit persons with incomes up to \$5,500 and include a provision for care of indigents and unemployables, he indicated.

He said the party is committed by its platform to a state plan, expressing the belief that California physicians attempting to operate a "closed corporation" plan eventually would ask the state to take it over.—*San Francisco Examiner*, December 20, 1938.

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Sprague Appointed to Health Board

Sacramento, December 24.—(AP).—Dr. Norman F. Sprague, Los Angeles, was appointed today by Governor Merriam to succeed Dr. George H. Kress as a member of the State Board of Health for a term ending January 15, 1941. Doctor Kress resigned on July 1, 1938.—*Los Angeles Times*, December 23, 1938.

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Spirit of Labor-Capital Cooperation Seen in Program at Forthcoming Session of Legislature

Indications that a broad spirit of cooperation between capital and labor will be evident in the program if the State Chamber of Commerce decides to support at the forthcoming session of the Legislature marked initial meetings of the organization in the Fairmont Hotel yesterday, as the thirteenth annual convention got under way with more than 1,000 delegates registered. . . .

Coincidentally, directors will have the following recommendations before them: . . .

Prepare statistics on unemployment compensation, old age insurance, health insurance, so California may move intelligently for or against any law governing them. . . .—*San Francisco Chronicle*, December 2, 1938.

* * *

Nonpartisan League Will Back State Health Insurance Measure

With the opening of legislative headquarters here, J. Vernon Burke, secretary of Labor's Nonpartisan League, announced today that the organization will sponsor a state health insurance measure at the coming session.

While Burke said financing plans have not been developed, it has been suggested that the money be raised by

a payroll levy. Both California residents and migratory workers would be eligible for benefits. . . .—*Sacramento Bee*, December 15, 1938.

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Medical Insurance Arrives

The campaign for medical insurance, which farmers have been waging in California, is now bearing fruit.

The California Medical Association has gotten a "divorce" from Dr. Morris Fishbein, secretary of the American Medical Association, who has been leading the fight against "socialized medicine," and the California group announces a health insurance plan which sounds practical, and humanitarian.

Details are not complete, but the California Medical Association proposes to set up a service by means of which citizens may pay a flat rate per month and go to the physician, surgeon or hospital of their choice for needed attention. This service is to be furnished by the members of the California Medical Association, who comprise about 90 per cent of the leading doctors of the state, and they will be reimbursed from the state insurance fund. The fund is to be non-profit, the monthly payment for the service to be based on the actual cost, as experience may reveal.

An effort to get the Dental Association to cooperate was not successful. Perhaps this may come later.

If the plan is carried out on the broad basis on which it is visioned, this will avoid state medicine and political control. It does not require any additional legislation, or extra equipment.

This is the sort of service the farm groups have asked for. They wanted to pay to be kept well, and be able to budget the necessary expense. This does not interfere, of course, with free medical service for indigents, nor does it put any compulsion on those fortunate citizens who do not have to worry about the cost of medical service, and may prefer to leave it to chance. But to a great many homes it will be welcome relief.

Thus the Medical Association is to be congratulated for meeting the request of agriculture.—*Pacific Rural Press* and *Petaluma Argus-Courier*, November 28, 1938.

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The California Farm Bureau Federation, with enlarged membership and new hope, met in its twentieth annual convention at Sacramento last week and adopted a broad work sheet for the future. . . .

The Farm Bureau has deposited in its new home at Berkeley a membership roll covering 23,129 farm families.

The convention rejoiced that the California Medical Association has agreed to furnish health insurance, and it renewed its demand that county hospitals be opened to paying patients.

Over 1,800 delegates from all over the state registered at the convention and visitors from many other farm groups participated in the discussions of the program ahead.

Farmers seek to do their part.—*Pacific Rural Press*, November 26, 1938.

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Ballot Expenses Listed

Three Hundred Thousand Dollars Spent Vainly to Pass Initiative No. 1 on Labor

Sacramento, December 12.—(UP).—Opponents to the Labor Initiative No. 1 on the November ballot spent about \$100,000 and organizations supporting the defeated measure expended more than \$300,000, Secretary of State Frank C. Jordan reported this week.

More than fifty organizations and individuals have filed financial reports with Jordan, as required by law. . . .

Chief expenditures against No. 2, the Humane Pound Act, were: B. C. Raulston, M. D., and George D. Maner, M. D., Los Angeles, \$5,314; California Medical Association, \$14,423; California Society for Promotion of Medical Research, \$29,545. Favoring the act were the California Citizens' Committee, \$3,189; California Committee, \$12,077. The act was defeated. . . .—*Santa Cruz Sentinel*, December 13, 1938.

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Socialized Legal Aid League Forms in State

Sacramento, December 22.—(INS).—Socialized legal aid for the poor and middle-class citizens of California was proposed in Sacramento today when the "Socialized Law League" filed articles of incorporation with Frank C. Jordan, Secretary of State.

The League, which proposes to create a "socialized law commission" of five members, plans to seek legislative approval of the plan, and, in the event of failure, place the matter before voters of the state in the form of an initiative measure.

The socialized law, Lieutenant-Governor Ellis Patterson said today, would be supported by the Democratic contingent in both houses if the bill is properly drawn.

He likened socialized law to socialized medicine, picturing a great need for both as arms of state government.

He said the people needed this protection so that the poor might stand on an equal basis with the rich before the bar of justice.—San Francisco *Call-Bulletin*, December 22, 1938.

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United States Recognizes State Problem

Washington, December 19—(AP).—Government experts reported today that along with a big increase in agricultural employment since 1910, California had acquired a "serious" migratory labor problem.

Summarizing results of a nation-wide survey, they informed Works Progress Administrator Harry L. Hopkins the state's farm labor force increased from 211,898 to 300,105 in the period from 1910 to 1935, and added this comment: "The organization of agriculture in California is somewhat different from that in other areas, being characterized by a high degree of specialization, the cultivation of intensive crops which have high seasonal labor demands, the presence of many large farming units, and a high degree of mechanization.

"The proportion of the total labor force composed of hired workers is distinctly greater than the remainder of the country. Further, this proportion has increased somewhat throughout the period studied."

In 1910, the experts reported, 102,764 of the 211,898 persons employed in agriculture were "family workers," while the rest were hired. By 1935 there were 172,232 family and 127,873 hired workers.—San Francisco *Chronicle*, December 19, 1938.

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Aid on Migrant Health Sought

State to Request Added Federal Assistance to Meet Farm Worker Problem

In view of the impending session of Congress and health conferences in Washington, Dr. W. M. Dickie yesterday began a campaign for more public health and medical assistance for migratory workers from the Federal Government.

The State Health Director pointed out that increased assistance is vital not only to relieve the ills of migrants and their families, but also to protect the general health of Californians.

"California is now approaching the peak of the migratory labor problem," Doctor Dickie announced. "Applications for medical aid may be expected to mount during the winter months."—San Francisco *Examiner*, December, 22, 1938.

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Drop Noted in Number of Migrants

Only 1,302 in Need of Work Entered State Last Month, United States Reports

The Farm Security Administration today reported 1,302 out-of-state families "in need of manual employment" entered California during November, 1938, as compared with 2,132 families during November, 1937.

Jonathan Garst, regional director of Farm Security Administration, said the figures were based on a survey by the agricultural plant quarantine border stations.

A "family" consists of 4.65 individuals, according to Farm Security Administration calculations.

"The records only show workers entering California," Mr. Garst said, "and take no account whatever of those leaving the state. There is, of course, a very considerable flow of such families leaving California."

Since June 1, 1935, 60,759 families in need of manual employment have arrived in California from out of state by auto. The decrease in numbers crossing the border has been sharper since April, 1938, than at any time since the border count was started.

"The decrease can only be ascribed to the fact that there was not work available in California," Garst said.—San Francisco *News*, December 26, 1938.

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Health Group Files Appeal*

The Pacific Health Corporation, a San Francisco group health association, yesterday appealed to the United States Supreme Court from a State Supreme Court decision that it practiced without a licence.

By selecting physicians to administer to its members the health organization actually was practicing medicine in violation of the state's medical practice act, the State Court held.

In asking the high tribunal to void the decision, the corporation, according to Associated Press dispatches from Washington, D. C., did not question the validity of the

* For text of the California Supreme Court decision see CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, October, 1938, page 306.

California law in so far as it prohibited any unqualified or unlicensed physician from practicing medicine.

The appeal was the second development in two days in the fight over group health. Tuesday the Department of Justice obtained indictments against the American Medical Association, three affiliated societies and twenty-one physicians on a charge of violating the antitrust laws.—San Francisco *Chronicle*, December 22.

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San Francisco City Health Service; Doctors Paid in Full

The City Employees' Health Service System completed its October business yesterday by mailing the last check to doctors on its panel.

All bills were paid at the full rate of \$1.00 per unit, according to Jesse C. Cameron, System secretary. Checks totaling \$13,433 were sent to 342 of the approximately one thousand physicians cooperating with the health insurance plan.

The month's operations left a balance of \$701 in the medical fund and \$577 in the administration fund, though the System was under heavy expenses for equipment and installations.

A rush to enroll dependents before the November 15 deadline for acceptance of new members without medical examinations brought the total membership as of December 1 up to 14,853, of whom 9,615 were employees and 5,238 dependents. October membership fees, deducted by the controller, amounted to \$26,217, those for November, \$30,735.—San Francisco *Chronicle*, December 8, 1938.

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Doctors Paid \$13,433 Under San Francisco Health Plan

Surplus of \$1,278 Left After Payments for October

Checks totaling \$13,433 were in the mails today—on their way to 342 physicians in the city—as payment for services rendered during October to city employees and dependents, under the city's health service plan.

After payment of the medicos, plus hospital and laboratory costs amounting to \$4,323, a surplus was left of \$1,278, to carry over.

Income Increases

Meanwhile, income of the health service increased during November to approximately \$26,000, owing to a sizable increase in number of members.

Under new regulations in effect November 15 it became necessary for dependents of city employees, desiring to join the service, to undergo physical examinations. In the two weeks prior to examinations becoming mandatory, numerous wives, husbands, fathers and children signed up.

2,050 New Members

Total new members in the "health club," from September 21 to November 15, was 2,050. At the present time 9,675 city employees are in the group, and 5,238 dependents.—San Francisco *Call-Bulletin*, December 8, 1938.

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Newspapers Pledge Support to Eaton*

Pledges of cooperation and fair treatment in interpreting his acts in Congress were given Representative-elect Tom Eaton yesterday by newspaper editors and publishers of the Eighteenth Congressional District at a farewell luncheon at Lakewood Country Club. After the luncheon Eaton and his family departed by auto for Washington.

Twelve publishers representing sixteen of the twenty-two newspapers in the district engaged in a frank discussion of local problems and issues. All offered full support of the new Representative.

Efforts to prevent the seating of Eaton next January 3 were condemned by Carl Fletcher, former Mayor of Long Beach and editor of the *Labor News*, who termed the tactics of certain groups in attempting to make a political target of Eaton as unfair and poor sportsmanship. He desired to go on record publicly, he said, against such maneuvers and also opposed the move to contest the election as threatened by the outgoing Representative.

Fletcher's remarks were considered significant in view of his opening statement that his paper had supported Eaton's opponent during the recent campaign.

Joe D. Williams, publisher of the Bellflower *Herald-Enterprise* and also a supporter of Representative Scott in the campaign, said that he felt it his duty now to give his fullest cooperation to the successful candidate. — Long Beach *Press*.

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Congressman Scott Files Vote Contest

Washington, December 27—(AP).—Congressman Byron N. Scott (D.) of the Eighteenth California Congressional

* Congressman-elect Eaton of the Long Beach-Los Angeles County district defeated Congressman Byron Scott. Congressman Scott was the sponsor of the bill in the last Congress to investigate the American Medical Association.

District, filed an election contest today against Mayor Thomas Eaton of Long Beach, his Republican opponent who defeated him by 326 votes.

The contest was filed with the contest election committee of the House of Representatives. Scott's representative here said notice of the contest was served in Decatur, Illinois, yesterday on Eaton by the Sheriff of Macon County.

Scott's twenty-five point complaint charges, among other things, violation of the California election laws and corrupt practices act.—San Francisco *Chronicle*, December 28, 1938.

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Postgraduate "State-wide" Medical School Planned

California's doctors will go back to school next year to keep pace with rapid developments of medical science.

The "school" will be taught by specialists and instructors from California's four medical colleges, who will travel to cities outside the metropolitan areas under a five-year plan of postgraduate study announced here today by the California Medical Association.

The purpose of the plan, explained by Dr. John C. Ruddock of Los Angeles, chairman of the Committee on Postgraduate Activities, is to enable physicians who can't continue their studies at the medical schools to learn about new developments, new techniques and new drugs.

"It enables the practitioner," Doctor Ruddock said, "to remain abreast of scientific progress and to apply in his daily practice the newer procedures with an understanding of their underlying principles and fundamentals."

Suggested educational centers were Stockton, Fresno, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Santa Barbara, San Jose, Santa Rosa, and Sacramento. The committee contemplated forming teams of clinicians to conduct series of conferences in more distant Northern California cities.

Dr. George H. Kress, Secretary of the Association, said the committee hopes to have the plan under way before spring.—Los Angeles *Herald and Express*, December 19.

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How Prepayment Hospitalization Works

Health . . . Lots of folks we know in Lodi are members of hospital associations. For a small monthly fee—a dollar and up—they are entitled to hospital care, medicines, operating room, dressings, x-rays and the like. You can even have a baby produced at the hospital and cared for, all for the monthly fee. But married couples can't decide to have a child and then cash in on the policy. Must be a member for several months before assuming blessed parenthood. A man our hospital scout knows was badly smashed up in a car accident, along with another fellow. Our scout's man had a policy, but the other victim was on his own. Both were cared for, and three weeks passed before they were discharged. The policyholder didn't pay a nickel for his care; his partner in pain wrote a check for \$112 to cover his bills. Pays to have a policy, what?

Expensive . . . A national survey just released tells you about the high cost of illness. Every day in the year an average of four million folks are hit by illness. The cost of sickness and the premature deaths in this nation is ten billion dollars a year. A staggering sum, indeed.

Deaths . . . The survey shows that infant deaths can be reduced by one-half. Every year there are two million babes born here. And one million babes never survive. This is just plain murder when you know that the million little folks would live if they had good care. One million infants are in families either on relief or who have an annual income of less than \$1,000. If these families were enabled to take out hospital policies, see what a difference it would make in the mortality rate.

Relief . . . There is now a movement to fix up a deal for the poor folks so they can have advantage of hospitals and doctors. It will require a staggering sum to care for the million babes that die each year. Far better to cut out some of this WPA spending and put the money where it will at least give poor folks an opportunity for good health and insure life to their babies. The poor we will always have with us. The most we can do is to keep them healthy. They can find their own happiness.—Lodi *Times*, December 7, 1938.

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County Extends Quarantine in Rabies Drive*

More Poundmen Hired; State Threatens to Kill Stray Dogs

Faced with the most serious rabies menace in the history of Santa Clara County, the Board of Supervisors yesterday widened the quarantine to include all unincorporated areas and increased the field force of poundmen to six and trucks to three.

If rabies is not stamped out here within sixty days by these measures, Santa Clara County is in danger of having

* See also Bedside Medicine Symposium on Rabies, in this issue, on page 30.

the state take over the situation with "shot-gun squads who will shoot stray dogs and cats on sight," according to Supervisor Joseph M. McKinnon.

"We hope the public will cooperate with county officers during the next sixty days in helping eradicate rabies, because we don't want drastic action taken," McKinnon said yesterday.

The supervisors voted yesterday to widen the quarantine and increase the field staff, after County Health Officer C. M. Burchfiel, meeting with the Board in executive session, stressed the seriousness of the rabies situation.

The quarantine formerly covered the northern part of the county, but stopped short at Edenvale. Rabies is rapidly increasing in southerly areas, according to Doctor Burchfiel, who reported six new cases in the Gilroy-Morgan Hill district since December 1.

The six men and three trucks were voted by the supervisors for a period of sixty days. Formerly the county health office had at its disposal one full-time and one half-time field man, and one and a half trucks.

Doctor Burchfiel's recommendations to the supervisors followed the visit of Edward Ross, chief of the State Bureau of Sanitation in the State Department of Public Health, here last week.

Ross said he believes the rabies situation in this county constitutes a serious menace to the public health," Burchfiel said. "Unless the public will cooperate with the health authorities and police in combating the scourge, sooner or later human lives will pay for the public's apathy," Ross declared.

If the state takes over the extermination of rabid animals, the expense of the drive will be charged to the county, Burchfiel added.

The county quarantine does not include incorporated areas such as San Jose and Palo Alto, which have their own quarantines.

Appearing before the supervisors at an earlier meeting yesterday, Mrs. Frank Thomas of Palo Alto, state humane officer, proposed that the Board assess a license fee of \$1.00 for male dogs and \$2.00 for females in unincorporated areas.

"The adoption of some kind of restrictive ordinance, one imposing a tax on all dogs, would give enforcement officers weapons to work with, and the poorer sections of all communities, which are usually hotbeds of propagation, would be cleaned up," Mrs. Thomas said in a letter to the Board.

The Board filed the letter for future consideration.—San Jose *Mercury-Herald*, December 13, 1938.

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Merriam Attends Napa Medical Party

Napa (Napa County), December 10.—Governor Frank F. Merriam is scheduled to be one of a score of honored guests who will be present at the Napa Valley Country Club tonight when the Napa County Medical Association holds its annual Christmas Jinx.

More than one hundred doctors and their guests, coming from all parts of the north bay district, will attend, according to Dr. George I. Dawson, chairman.

Among the guests attending will be:

Harry Lutgens, State Director of Institutions; Dr. F. O. Butler, Director of the Sonoma State Home; Judge Percy S. King of Napa; Dr. Junius B. Harris and Dr. Roy Green, both of Sacramento; Assemblyman Ernest C. Crowley; Senator H. W. Slater of Santa Rosa; Assemblyman H. B. Scudder of Sebastopol; Senator Thomas Keating of San Rafael; Dr. S. S. Bogle of Santa Rosa; Dr. L. L. Stanley of San Quentin Prison; Dr. Henry S. Rogers, Councillor of the Northbay District of the California Medical Association, and many others from Northern California.

Each year the Medical Association, headed by Dr. Walter Rapaport, of the Napa State Hospital, stages the annual jinx.—Sacramento *Bee*, December 10, 1938.

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Medical Meeting in Mendocino County

Ukiah, December 9.—A dinner meeting of the Mendocino-Lake Medical Association will be held at the Mendocino State Hospital, Saturday evening.

Dr. George H. Kress, Secretary of the State Medical Association, will speak on medical insurance, and Dr. William Shepherd of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company will show films on pneumonia.—Santa Rosa *Republican*, December 9, 1938.

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Hospital Executive Meet

J. O. Thorpe, general manager of the Intercoast Hospitalization Insurance Association, returned tonight from a conference with executives of the three California nonprofit hospital service plans, which was held at the California Club in Los Angeles. The other two plans are the Insur-

ance Association of Approved Hospitals in the San Francisco bay area and the Associated Hospital Service of Southern California.—*Sacramento Bee*, December 5, 1938.

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Physical Examination Law in Oregon Slows Up Cupid Trade*

Portland, Oregon, December 11. — Poor Dan Cupid is mighty near bankrupt in the Oregon branch of his business. It wasn't bad management, either.

Dan was doing all right until the high cost of marriage began before the license could be issued.

Not that romance is dead. Heaven forbid! It's just that a trip to bordering state is no more expensive than the medical examinations now required in Oregon.

One prospective bridegroom struck the attitude of most Oregon couples when the Multnomah County license clerk told him what permission to wed would cost. "The h— you say," he muttered, and backed hastily through the door.

A new law, which went into effect a week ago, stagnated the wedding business. It requires physical examinations and Wassermann tests for men and women alike, for which physicians may collect \$10 from the couple.

That isn't all. Licenses may be refused if parents or grandparents were afflicted with "epilepsy, feeble-mindedness, insanity, drug addiction or chronic alcoholism." Possession of a venereal disease is an absolute bar.

After the sworn statement of the applicants and physician are recorded, the couple still has to wait three days for a license—a holdover from an earlier law—and then pay \$3.00 for it. That doesn't include the minister's fee.

Margaret Klees, Multnomah County license clerk, found some consolation in the situation, despite the fact that she could issue no licenses for several days because the prescribed blanks were not available.

"Most couples seem prepared to pay the price," Mrs. Klees commented. "If they can't, they shouldn't be getting married anyway."

One question bothered her.

"Where are you going to draw the line in refusing licenses?" she demanded. "Lots of people have been treated for insanity, but have completely recovered. I know lots of men who could be called chronic alcoholics, but they handle their businesses successfully and are highly intelligent, desirable citizens. Where do their children stand?"

Mrs. Klees thinks the law will work "when people get educated to it."

Meantime, Vancouver and Walla Walla, Washington, just over the Oregon border, Western Idaho, Nevada, and California points are doing a rushing business—even though California requires a three-day wait for a marriage license.—*San Jose Mercury-Herald*, December 12, 1938.

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First Flea Lab Near Opening

A two-story building dedicated to study of the lowly flea was near completion today at the University of California Medical Center, the first flea laboratory in the world.

Dr. Karl F. Meyer, superintendent, said the new laboratory will be used for beginning of highly important pioneering studies into sources of bubonic plague among animals and other problems.

City dwelling two-bit flop house fleas are not the problem, Doctor Meyer said. It's their second cousins which infest squirrels, chipmunks and other wild life that are the disease carriers.—*San Francisco Call-Bulletin*, December 13, 1938.

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Merriam Attends "Christmas Jinx" of Medical Group

The "Christmas Jinx," annual affair sponsored by the Napa County Medical Association tonight at the Napa Valley Country Club, will be attended by Governor Frank F. Merriam as one of the score of distinguished guests to join in the holiday fete.

More than one hundred doctors and their guests are expected to attend the stag affair, which is held under supervision of Dr. Walter Rapaport of Napa State Hospital, President of the County Association. Dr. George I. Dawson, chairman of the evening, announced that there will be no speakers, since the program is purely social.

Among the many distinguished guests who will be in attendance are Harry Lutgens, State Director of Institutions; Judge Percy S. King, Dr. F. O. Butler, Director of Sonoma State Home; Assemblyman Ernest C. Crowley, Senator H. W. Slater of Santa Rosa, Assemblyman H. B. Scudder of Sebastopol, Senator Thomas Keating of San Rafael, Dr. S. S. Bogle, Santa Rosa; Dr. L. L. Stanley, San Quentin Prison; Dr. Henry S. Rogers, Councilor of the

* By Paul F. Ewing.

Of interest because similar laws will be submitted to the 1939 California Legislature.

Northbay District of the California Medical Association; Dr. Junius B. Harris and Dr. Roy Green, both of Sacramento.

Feature of the evening's entertainment will be the appearance of the Medical-Dental band of eighteen pieces, who will come from Oakland for the evening. Professional entertainment will also be on hand for the program. Doctor Dawson said today that all plans were complete, and that the program was one of the biggest ever planned.—*Napa Journal*, December 10, 1938.

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Lutgens, Rosanoff Will Discuss Mental Hospitals

Sacramento, December 14—(AP).—Harry Lutgens, State Director of Institutions, had today announced a conference for next Saturday with Aaron J. Rosanoff, Los Angeles, who will succeed him under the Olson administration.

Construction at the state mental hospitals to relieve congestion will be one of the principal subjects under discussion. A \$4,000,000 appropriation has been discussed for inclusion in the next biennial budget with \$4,500,000 remaining unexpended in the current budget.—*San Francisco Call-Bulletin*, December 14, 1938.

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Hospitalization Group Insurance Offered Chamber

Group hospital insurance was the topic at the Chamber of Commerce meeting, held Monday at the Horseshoe Grill.

Dr. F. M. Stump led the discussion by stating that a life insurance company had offered a proposition to the Chamber of Commerce, whereby the members, as a group, could take out hospital insurance for as low as 67 cents per month for males, \$1.00 for females, \$1.00 for wives, and 40 cents each for children.

The plan would give free hospitalization to all members for a period of seventy days for any one period of disability.

If the plan is accepted by the Chamber of Commerce it will have the distinction of being the first to have ever been offered such a plan. A speaker will come next week to further explain the plan.—*Crescent City American*, December 9, 1938.

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Health Film Shown Today

A preview of "A New Day," a film sponsored by the City Department of Public Health, was to be shown at 2 p. m. today at the Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation studio, 245 Hyde Street.

The moving picture, which features Gilbert Emery and a full Hollywood cast, represents the fight being waged by the Department of Public Health to reduce the number of deaths by pneumonia. The film extends over a ten-minute period. It had an initial run of a week at the Radio City Music Hall in New York City.

Plans are now under way to present it before the public here, according to Dr. J. C. Geiger, Director of Public Health.—*San Francisco Call-Bulletin*, December 13, 1938.

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Olson Appoints Doctor Rosanoff

Dr. Aaron J. Rosanoff, fifty-nine, operator of a private San Gabriel sanitarium and member of the Los Angeles County Lunacy Commission since 1923, today was appointed Director of State Institutions by Governor-elect Culbert L. Olson. He will take office January 2.

He is a charter member and former president of the Southern California Academy of Criminology.—*San Francisco Call-Bulletin*, December 5, 1938.

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Socialized Medicine Will Be Film Theme*

Hollywood, December 26.—Once again Hollywood is snagging a movie idea out of the newspaper headlines. Sam Goldwyn is going to town rushing his writers through a script of "I Am a Doctor," based on the current fight between the American Medical Association and the Government, over socialized medicine. In fact, Sam is sending scripters to Washington, D. C., to cover the trial of Dr. Morris Fishbein, editor of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, and other doctors opposed to the idea of "a dollar down and a dollar a month for medical attention."

Sam is lining up an interesting cast, with Joel McCrea set for the rôle of the young doctor who believes in socialized medicine, and Walter Brennan, who almost stole "Kentucky," in another top spot. But particularly interesting is the news that Richard Bennett, father of Joan and Connie, is being sought for the rôle of the famous surgeon who is opposed to medicine on the installment plan.—*San Francisco Examiner*, December 27, 1938.

* By Louella O. Parsons, Motion Picture Editor, International News Service.

Graduate Conferences: Doctors Focus on Pneumonia

San Francisco, December 19—(AP). — Pneumonia was singled out today from among all the ills of mankind for the concentrated attention of California's doctors.

The selection was made by the California Medical Association Committee on Postgraduate Activities in preparing plans for a traveling medical college.

The Peripatetic School, to be started within the next three months, will be staffed by experts, who will hold classes in a dozen cities throughout California to keep practicing physicians in touch with the latest developments of medical science.

"The average total yearly deaths from pneumonia in California reaches over four thousand," said Dr. John C. Ruddock, committee chairman.—Los Angeles Times, December 20, 1938.

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State Bar Considers Health Age Aid Plan for California Lawyers

Feasibility of an insurance plan for California lawyers which would cover funeral and burial expenses, medical service, hospitalization, retirement annuity, sick benefits and loan privileges was being considered today by the Board of Governors of the State Bar to whom it was proposed by William C. Ring, Los Angeles attorney.

Asking that the Board appoint a committee to study the matter and report to the 1939 convention of the organization, Ring said that "it is pitiful to find ninety-four lawyers who are so destitute as to be unable to pay their state bar dues." This was the number recently suspended from practice for such nonpayment.

He said he believed that full coverage insurance could be provided by a unit organized by the State Bar at comparatively inexpensive rates.

Ineligible for United States Aid

"Aside from the purely humanitarian aspect, I feel that some such plan is demanded by national economics and a reasonable security against professional delinquency," Ring stated in his communication to the Board. "Self-preservation is the first law, and the system of jurisprudence or code of ethics, which undertakes to enforce moral decency without taking the former into account, is estopped to assert its own violations."

He pointed out that the lawyer group is one of those not protected in the federal security plan, and said that under existing conditions "the complete coverage type of insurance every lawyer should have is too expensive for the average individual."

Will Provide Security

"In the past," he said, "the average lawyer has had little to look forward to in his profession in the way of old age security. Existing conditions negate the possibility of security by ordinary saving. Incomes do not permit it. But an insurance plan, contemplating monthly dues, commencing while the lawyer is young, will provide him a living annuity in forty years."

"It will also provide him with a small loan facility to defray current expenses. The records will never tell the entire story of professional delinquencies, precipitated by economic pressure, which might have been averted had there been available a source for procuring necessities."—Los Angeles Evening Herald and Express, December 23, 1938.

LETTERS**Subject: The Motion Picture, "A Man to Remember."**

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Los Angeles, California,

December 6, 1938.

To the Editor:—On Monday, December 5, a representative group of members of the Council of the Los Angeles County Medical Association and officers attended a preview of the motion picture, "A Man to Remember," produced by the R. K. O. Studio. The picture will be released this week.

The Council at its meeting last night, upon motion duly made and seconded, recommended this picture to the membership and instructed the editor to prepare an editorial relative to it for the Bulletin.

It is the opinion of the men who witnessed this picture that it is one of the best portrayals of the old family doctor ever to come out of a motion picture studio.

Attached is a copy of the editorial to appear in the current issue of the Bulletin.

It is suggested that other county societies be advised of the merits of this production, and asked to watch for its release in their respective communities.

Cordially yours,

GEORGE D. MANER, M.D.,

Secretary.

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"A MAN TO REMEMBER"

Motion Picture Eulogizing the Family Physician Is Recommended by the Council—Members Are Urged to See it.

"A man to Remember" is a motion picture to see; if seen it will be remembered, not only by the members of the profession it eulogizes, but by the millions of theatergoers, who, during the coming months, will be profoundly affected by it.

Motion pictures come and go. In recent years a number of them have been brought to the special attention of medical men. Some of these productions have been based upon medical themes; have been fairly accurate historical presentations depicting the advance of scientific research and the resultant benefits to humanity. They unquestionably have played an important part in educating the public to the value of scientific medicine.

Never, however, had the Council of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, gone on record as formally recommending any motion picture to the members until its meeting on Monday evening, December 5, when it adopted a motion recommending the current release, "A Man to Remember," produced by R. K. O. Studios, and now being shown at Pantages, Hollywood, and R. K. O. Hill Street theaters.

Every doctor is urged to view this picture; to consider its value, to recommend it to his friends and his patients as he undoubtedly will so see fit.

In the past there have appeared pictures in which the man of medicine plays a part; pictures that have exaggerated isolated instances to cast aspersion upon the entire profession in attempts to create drama at any cost.

"A Man to Remember," the story of a family physician in a small city—is in reality the story of a countless number of family physicians who devote their lives to the healing of the sick, who are living examples of what the Oath of Hippocrates means; men who work for humanity only, regardless of themselves. A picture such as this, with its honesty of purpose and its wholesome drama, is indeed welcome.

Members of the Council attended a special preview of this picture and went away greatly impressed by it, not only because it is a story of one of their own profession, but because it is a story that is great in itself and which should have tremendous dramatic appeal for all laymen as well as physicians.

Especially to be commended is the artistry of Edward Ellis in the rôle of John Abbott, M.D., "A Man to Remember."

Subject: Thanks from the American Red Cross.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 5, 1938.

To the Editor:—Please allow me to express to you in behalf of our national officers our very sincere appreciation for the generous contribution of space which you gave to the American Red Cross in the CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE. It is through the splendid coöperation which you and others give to us each November that we are en-